

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 7-12 are pending in the present application. The Applicants respectfully request entry of the Request for Continued Examination submitted herewith. The Applicants have amended claim 1 to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as their invention. Support for the present amendments is found throughout the specification and claims, as originally filed. No new matter has been entered and no additional claims fees are believed to be due. The Applicants strongly believe the present Amendments, and accompanying Remarks, have placed the present application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, timely and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC § 103(a) over Von Der Osten

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-4 and 7-12 under 35 USC § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over US Patent Number 6,015,783 to Von Der Osten et al (hereinafter "Von Der Osten"). Specifically, the Examiner asserts that Von Der Osten specifically suggests a detergent composition comprising a cyclodextrin glucanotransferase enzyme, a detergent ingredient and a starch binding domain derived from the specific sources set forth in present claim 1. See Paper Number 8; page 2. Moreover, the Examiner asserts that Von Der Osten suggests a detergent composition having a glucoamylase of *Aspergillus niger*, as Von Der Osten purportedly discloses the use of EC 3.2.1.1. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the "Amendments" section of the instant paper, in which the Applicants have amended claim 1 to reflect that the starch binding domain recited therein is provided as part of the present cyclodextrin glucanotransferase enzyme. Support for the present amendments is found on page 15, lines 15 to 30 of the present specification, as originally filed. In light of the present amendments, the Applicants submit and strongly urge that Von Der Osten fails to teach or suggest a detergent composition comprising a cyclodextrin glucanotransferase enzyme, a detergent ingredient and a starch binding domain that is introduced into the claimed detergent composition as part of the present cyclodextrin glucanotransferase enzyme, as set forth in amended claim 1. Rather, Von Der Osten simply discloses the general use of enzymes stemming from EC 3.2.1.1 in the cleaning of fabric or textile in washing processes. The Applicants urge that incorporation of the present starch binding domain into the subject cyclodextrin glucanotransferase would not have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art upon reviewing the disclosure of Von Der Osten. Indeed, the Applicants have surprisingly discovered that introduction of the subject starch binding domain into the present detergent compositions as part of the subject cyclodextrin glucanotransferase is associated with improved removal of starch-based stains and/or soils, as well as reduced formulation costs. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to Claims 1-4 and 7-12 under 35 USC § 103(a) are therefore respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC § 103(a) over Danielsen

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 and 7-12 under 35 USC § 103(a) over US Patent Number 6,410,291 to Danielsen et al (hereinafter "Danielsen"). Specifically, the Examiner contends that it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to formulate a detergent composition comprising a cyclodextrin glucanotransferase enzyme, nonionic surfactant, protease, bleaching agent and glucoamylase derived from *Aspergillus niger* based on the disclosure of Danielsen. See Paper Number 8; page 5. The Examiner notes that Danielsen does not specifically teach a detergent composition having the specific ratios and proportions as recited by the instant claims. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the "Amendments" section of the instant paper, in which the Applicants have amended claim 1, to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as their invention. Specifically, the Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite that the present starch binding domain is introduced into the claimed detergent composition as part of the subject cyclodextrin glucanotransferase enzyme. Support for the present amendments is found on page 19, lines 15-30 of the present specification, as originally filed. No new matter has been added. In light of the present amendments, the Applicants strongly urge that Danielsen neither teaches nor suggests each and every material limitation of the claimed invention. Specifically, Danielsen neither teaches nor suggests the introduction of the present starch-binding domain into the claimed detergent composition as part of the subject cyclodextrin glucanotransferase. Rather, Danielsen simply discloses the use of glucoamylase derived from *Aspergillus niger* in a detergency context. The Applicants further submit that the introduction of the present starch binding domain into a detergent composition as part of the claimed cyclodextrin glucanotransferase would not have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art upon reviewing the disclosure of Danielsen. Indeed, the Applicants have surprisingly discovered that introduction of the starch binding domain in the present manner is associated with improved removal of starch-based stains and soils, as well as reduced formulation costs. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-4 and 7-12 under 35 USC § 103(a) over Danielsen.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest effort to place the present claims in condition for allowance. WHEREFORE, entry of the amendments provided herewith, reconsideration of the claims as amended in light of the Remarks provided, withdrawal of the claims rejections, and allowance of Claims 1-4 and 7-12 as amended, are respectfully requested. In the event that issues remain prior to allowance of the noted claims, then the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney to discuss any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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15 September 2003
Cincinnati, Ohio
CM2380-OA-After Final.doc

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